



**Chicago Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners Public Session
January 20, 2015
CHA Corporate Office – 60 E. Van Buren St.**

	Name	Question/Comment	Response
1	Felicia Gardner	<p>The last Board meeting I came to was in August and you had Tim and Mary assist me, and they put me in a program called Threshold, and my living conditions have been hell ever since. They moved me over to 73rd and Phillips and people have been breaking into my apartment, I have it all on tape. I went to the States Attorney, they had the police at the building for about two weeks and they had someone come into the building and they found out what I said was true. The elevator was down for a month, and the police are scared over there. I am seeking help now, I went to Roosevelt Square, and they asked if I was still with Threshold, they didn't want to deal with the programs. They said I could get in if I had a voucher. I went to 60 Minutes, and the States Attorney had me come to you.</p>	<p>CHA has looked into Ms. Gardner's concerns closely, and will withhold specifics in this response in order to protect Ms. Gardner's right to privacy. The CHA has responded directly to Ms. Gardner.</p>
2	Jeffrey Hunter	<p>My concern is of grave importance to me, my dream is for safe and secure housing. I thought my Section 8 would assure me of this, but for some reason I've been over 10 years in receiving my voucher, I have yet to receive any confirmation that my voucher will be afforded to me. I need to secure my voucher, it's been 10 years. I came down December 23 and they gave me a blank sheet of paper, so I decided to come here today. One minute they told me I was going to get my voucher, and then they told me I can't get it anymore.</p>	<p>This matter has been resolved favorably for Mr. Hunter.</p>

3	Bernadette Williams	<p>1) I am here to talk about the recent violence at Altgeld. With the number of cameras we have, we have been having shootings every day, why aren't these shooters being picked up? Have you thought about hiring more people to monitor the cameras?</p> <p>2) I want to talk about Resident Owned Businesses with no space, have you come up with anything about incubators for residents to start their businesses?</p>	<p>1) CHA is actively working with CPD on implementing effective strategies to patrol the Altgeld community. CHA has no control regarding how or when police detain or arrest suspects. CHA is able to retrieve and forward video footage to CPD within 36 hours and CHA is looking into hiring additional staff to monitor activity via cameras and to reduce the amount of time required to respond to video footage requests. Security at Altgeld Gardens continues to be a priority for CHA and strategic planning is ongoing between CHA, Local Advisory Council (LAC), Altgeld Riverdale Consortium (ARC), Fifth Police District, Roseland Cease Fire, and surrounding residential developments.</p> <p>2) Space for ROBs at Altgeld is unavailable right now. However, assistance for businesses looking for incubator space may be available pursuant to CHA's agreement with the Chicago Urban League. For more information, please contact Jason William Johnson from the Chicago Urban League, at 773-451-3547.</p>
4	Noni Arnold	<p>I have some flyers I want to pass to the Commissioners, I have a business at Altgeld Gardens, I work with a home daycare and I have started picking up the children for free from school because it's not safe over there. I would like to partner with CHA, because I am doing this from my home, it's free for residents. My concern is the incubators, and who do I talk to in order to partner up? I have 25 youth I am providing this service for, I pick them up, and I serve them meals at my home. Who should I speak with about a CHA partnership?</p>	<p>CHA staff met with Ms. Arnold following the meeting and advised her to contact the two existing early learning centers to discuss possible partnerships. No other space is currently available at Altgeld.</p>
5	Barbara Brandon	<p>I am the LAC Vice President at Altgeld and I was following up with what Bernadette and Noni were saying. The parents are very happy about this program and they have said they don't need to worry about their kids safety when they are going to school. Is there another place where we can have this program, because it's getting bigger by the day.</p>	<p>CHA staff spoke with Ms. Arnold about her services and advised Ms. Arnold to contact the two existing early learning centers to discuss potential partnerships.</p>
6	Perry Casey	<p>I am the LAC President for Senior Housing North, as you know, Mr. Whitfield our former General Counsel retired last December. It gives me pleasure to introduce to you the new General Counsel for the CAC. We have retained the firm of Hughes Socol Piers Resnick Dym. They have over 30 years of experience, and they have extensive experience in litigation. Any legal matters concerning the CAC should be directed to our attorneys.</p>	<p>Thank you for the information.</p>

7	Paul McKinley	<p>1) I have a letter that I would like to give to the Board, I would like to bring up once again the issue about landscaping on all of the public projects. It is a shame that we have an 87% African American population in public housing, and 87% of the landscaping workers are Hispanic. Section 3 is supposed to be race neutral, how is it race neutral when CHA residents are not working on their own property? I would like to give this complaint to the Board Secretary.</p> <p>2) We would also like you to take these Board meetings to the community, I got a ticket and I got my car towed coming down here. This is economically hostile to the low-income people. We are asking that this Board responds to this, these meetings should be held all through the city. Section 3 is not working the way it's supposed to be working, so we don't have the money to come down to these meetings.</p>	<p>1) HUD's Section 3 regulations and CHA's Section 3 policy determine eligibility based on income, not race. You may report any issues regarding compliance with Section 3 at: http://www.thecha.org/doing-business/compliance-requirements/</p> <p>2) Board meetings are held at CHA's main office (60 E. Van Buren St.) as well as other locations throughout Chicago. Here is a listing of locations for the next four Board meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ March 17, 60 E. Van Buren ▪ April 21, Albany Terrace Apartments, 3030 W. 21st Pl. ▪ May 19, 60 E. Van Buren ▪ June 16, Wentworth Gardens, 3770 S. Wentworth
8	Donald Becton	<p>I am the President of Minnie Riperton Senior Apartments, last week we were relocated temporarily. The residents commented that they didn't like it, they loved it. They liked the way they were treated by Asset Managers and Property Managers. If the meeting was some place where they could have made it to, they would have come down. They told me to come down here and be nice, and give everyone their props. Whoever was the head of that did a fantastic job.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
9	Joseph Watkins	<p>1) I have a couple of issues, I am disappointed that you gave Marianos land, I hope it's not etched in stone and we can protest it. Move the Marianos to Altgeld, we don't need it at Wells.</p> <p>2) To piggyback on what Paul was saying, I am a Section 3 business owner and we can't get a contract. I notice in all the new developments, I notice that Hispanics do all the work, and we can't get employment. Why are we not selected to be a part of the process? I request you look into this. These new Section 3 business people fall out of the sky, who is making these things happen, I think you are being discriminatory to low-income Black people.</p>	<p>1) The proposed disposition of land at the northeast corner of 39th Street and King Drive was included in the Proposed Amended FY2014 MTW Annual Plan Amendment (see attachment after page 4). CHA held a public comment period from June 27 – July 28, 2014, which included three public hearings that were held on July 8, 9 and 15. The transaction has received HUD approval and is moving forward. CHA understands the concerns regarding grocery stores in the Altgeld area and is studying potential solutions.</p> <p>2) HUD's Section 3 regulations and CHA's Section 3 policy determine eligibility based on income, not race. You may report any issues regarding compliance with Section 3 at: http://www.thecha.org/doing-business/compliance-requirements/</p>

10	Stacey Lawrence	<p>I am a 24 year resident of Altgeld Gardens, I want to make a statement about the security over at Altgeld. Maverick is the security company out there and they seem to be more of a gang than a security company. It was a couple of years ago when I filed a lawsuit against Maverick for jumping on my 22 year old son, I guess he was 17 at the time. My son has a severe case of epilepsy. He was walking back to the house with a few hundred dollars in his pocket and they jumped my son and he had a seizure and left him in the street. If he didn't have a friend with him at the time, he possibly could have died. Maverick is still out there and still provoking people. The gang members are challenging them. Maverick should stop hanging out at the liquor store by Altgeld. We need a security company out there that's for the people.</p>	<p>CHA realizes it is important that residents have confidence in the firms responsible for security at CHA developments, including Altgeld. The procurement, hiring, and ongoing performance evaluations of security firms are among the many responsibilities of the property management firms. Your comments and concerns will be passed on to Eastlake Management, for further review.</p>
11	Carol Folkes	<p>1) Happy New Year to all. I am a 15 year resident of Vivian Harsh senior campus. My one concern is regarding our life safety project that was supposed to be completed in February 2014. Our residents have been impacted by this project and it won't be completed until February 2015. Manny Laud and Glenda Clark are doing their jobs, it's not their fault that these delays have happened. This is really impacting us and it's not finished.</p> <p>2) I understand that work goes to the lowest bidder, but this is not always good. Our floors and our cabinets are really atrocious. We need to take a look at spending money on quality things that last.</p> <p>3) Lastly, I have worked with youth all my life, CHA youth should partner with CHA seniors.</p>	<p>1) CHA anticipates this project will be completed in March, 2015. CHA and the contractor are doing our best to limit the inconvenience this project may cause for residents at Vivian Gordon Harsh Apartments. However, as the scope of work for this project is so large, residents will unfortunately encounter inconveniences from time to time. We are working to complete this project as quickly as possible, and we expect the end result will offer residents a safer and more comfortable living environment.</p> <p>2) Upon completion of this specific project, CHA will review all completed work to ensure the project adheres to specific construction standards and to ensure that less expensive or less durable materials have not been substituted for the materials specified in the contract.</p> <p>3) Thank you for your comment.</p>